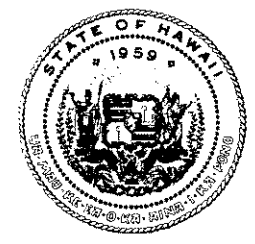


Reso 06-015

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The Senate
The Twenty-Third Legislature
of the
State of Hawaii
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813



January 26, 2006

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Mr. Henry Eng
Director
Department of Planning and Permitting
City and County of Honolulu
650 S. King St., 7th Flr
Honolulu, HI 96813

RECEIVED
FEB 1 6 33 PM '06
CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Subject: The Woods at Ahuimanu Subdivision (TMK: 4-7-005: por. 060)

Dear Director Eng,

I have attached a letter dated July 7, 1982 from Robert B. Jones, Deputy Director of the Department of Land Utilization (DLU) approving a previous development project application on the condition that specific requirements including modifications were agreed to by the developer. The property referred to in the 1982 letter is the same referred to as The Woods at Ahuimanu subdivision project application by Mr. Peter Aiello.

Of particular concern is the requirement that the 1982 DLU letter requires the developer to **install** a gravity flow sewer system **connecting** with the City system and construction of a 100,000 gallon water reservoir. Nearby residents of the proposed development have made it eminently clear on countless occasions that cesspool overflows and drainage issues are ongoing problems in Ahuimanu valley.

Moreover, the 1982 DLU letter requiring the developer to "install a gravity flow sewer system connecting with the City system" recognizes and confirms what residents already know to be a continual environmental and health problem. Does the Department of Planning and Permitting agree or disagree with the assessment and concluding requirement of the 1982 Department of Land Utilization? If you disagree (with DLU) please provide the evidence and data to me.

Misc. Com. No. 0230

In addition, the DLU letter requires the developer to make improvements to Ahuimanu Road. I firmly believe that "the improvements" were intended to include the entirety of Ahuimanu Road or the Department of Land Utilization would have identified or limited the requirement to a specific portion of Ahuimanu Road.

I have provided three recently published articles relating to these issues for your consideration. These articles recognize that any review of development in this area should carefully consider the quantity and frequency of rainfall, the clay soil, and the impact of sewage.

In light of the 1982 letter, please inform me if the present developer met those requirements set forth in the DLU letter? If not, why not? If those requirements no longer apply, please explain why not.

Finally, what is the position of DPP insofar as permits are concerned? If they have been granted have they been granted with the knowledge of the attached 1982 DLU letter? If not, do you plan to reconsider the permit application in light of the requirements set forth by DLU in 1982?

I look forward to your reply. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 586-7330. Mahalo a nui loa no kau mana'olana.

Sincerely,



Clayton Hee

cc:

Council Chair Donovan Dela Cruz
Department of Health, Deputy Director Laurence Lau
Kahalu'u Neighborhood Board Members
Ahuimanu residents

Attachments (links - email only)

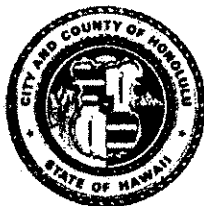
<http://starbulletin.com/print/2005.php?fr=/2006/01/15/news/story11.html>

<http://starbulletin.com/print/2005.php?fr=/2006/01/26/news/story04.html>

<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2006/Jan/26/ln/FP601260350.html/?print=on>

DEPARTMENT OF LAND UTILIZATION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 • (808) 523-4432



EILEEN R. ANDERSON
MAYOR

MICHAEL M. MCELROY
DIRECTOR

ROBERT B. JONES
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

July 7, 1982

82/CL-3 (GH)

CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION
AHUIMANU WOODLANDS
TAX MAP KEY: 4-7-5: 60
APPLICATION NO. 82/CL-3

The application for the proposed cluster development project request has been approved under the "Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Decision and Order" dated June 21, 1982.

Based on the analysis, the Director has concluded that the development with some modifications would be designed to produce an environment compatible with the character of existing property in the vicinity of the proposal and the area would not be adversely affected as a result of the development.

Modifications include the requirements for:

1. Improvements to Ahuimanu Road;
2. Temporary and permanent erosion control measures;
3. Installation of a new box culvert for Kahaluu Stream under Ahuimanu Road;
4. Construction of a new 100,000 gallon water reservoir;
5. Installation of a gravity flow sewer system connecting with the City system;
6. An archaeological survey for evaluation by the State Historic Preservation Officer; and
7. Provisions for noise and light glare controls.

A copy of the "Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Decision and Order" is on file at the Department of Land Utilization should additional information be required.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Gerald Henniger of our staff at 523-4252.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert B. Jones".
ROBERT B. JONES
Deputy Director

RBJ:ra

Article URL: <http://starbulletin.com/2006/01/15/news/story11.html>
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Kaneohe holds record in West for rainy days

Records show the city had 247 days of rainfall in a row from August 1993 to April 1994

■ Staff and news service reports

Despite a run of rainy days in Seattle since Dec. 19 that's approaching the city's record, it isn't even close to breaking the Western U.S. record for number of consecutive days of rain.

If rain keeps falling on Seattle until Thursday, it will meet its previous record of 33 consecutive days of rain, set in 1953.

But Kaneohe recorded 247 consecutive days of rain from Aug. 27, 1993 through April 30, 1994, according to records from the Western Regional Climate Center in Reno, Nev.

The statistic is in a section of the climate center's Web site titled "State Extremes," and it counts any day that had at least 1/100th of an inch of rain or snow.

"Hawaii has some amazing rainfall statistics," Jim Ashby, Western Regional Climate Center climatologist told the Associated Press this week.

For Kaneohe residents, their town's record didn't raise an eyebrow yesterday.

Longtime Kaneohe resident Richard Kuniyoshi said he doesn't remember 1993-94 as particularly rainy, but he doesn't doubt the record for a minute.

"Could be," he said. "It does rain a little bit every day and then stop, especially up where I live at Castle Hills, near the Koolaus."

In Washington state, Gov. Christine Gregoire declared a state of emergency in 12 counties on Friday because of ongoing rain. Seattle had 0.57 of an inch of rain on Thursday for a total of 12.41 inches since Dec. 19, when the city started toward its own record. Friday, another rainy day, was the 26th successive day of rain.

Ashby noted that rainy days in Hawaii are different from precipitation in the Pacific Northwest. "It's not quite as overcast and dismal. You get some sun between," he said.

Hal Herfurth "has no particular memory" of a string of rainy days in the fall, winter and spring of 1993-94. "But in Kaneohe," he said, "it rains all the time."



Posted on: Thursday, January 26, 2006

Kahalu'u asked to remain patient; after 2 decades, park still not done

By Eloise Aguiar
Advertiser Windward O'ahu Writer

KAHALU'U — Jason Flores, 36, has been waiting for a new football field in his community for 30 years. For each of the past six years, as a coach, he expected to move his team to the newly developed regional park.

He's still waiting.

The city is now saying it will take an additional eight months, once a contract is awarded this spring, to fix a drainage problem created by poor soil conditions. Kahalu'u Regional Park was expected to open in 2003, but problems with rocks, then grass and now drainage have postponed the use of the playing fields that the community had begun planning for more than 25 years ago.

"We've been waiting for it since I was able to play in Pop Warner and Little League sports," said Flores, a father of five boys. "They've been promising us since I've been coaching — for six years — to move us there. It never happened."

The wait has been costly for the Kahalu'u-He'eia Pop Warner Association, which has had to pay to play at another field and cause parents to rearrange schedules to bring players to practice, said Nick Cambra, president of the association.

The association has paid as much as \$1,700 a year since 1983 to play at King Intermediate School, Cambra said. Twice a year they provide about 400 pounds of fertilizer and groom that field, he said.

"We're the only Pop Warner association that pays for a field," said Cambra, adding that the fee covers the cost of a custodian and security guard. "We have to charge the kids to play. It just raises our fees."

Lately, limiting play and practice to King school also has lowered the number of teams the association can field, Cambra said. The association has four teams and wants to add one more, but can't until they move to the bigger Kahalu'u park.

"It's not just costing money," he said. "I believe it's costing us kids."

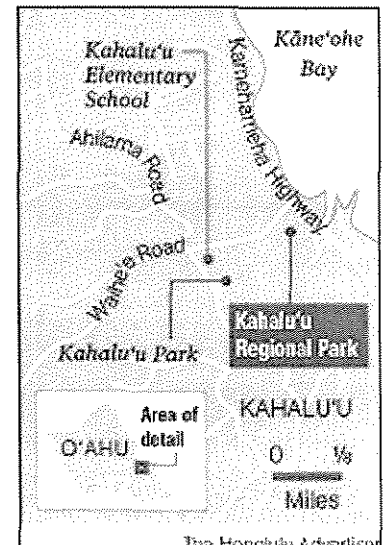
Eugene Lee, deputy director for the city Design and Construction Department, said the city has hired a sports turf specialist and is designing a drainage system for the park, which has a football and softball field.

In 2004, after much of the work was completed, rocks the size of golf balls began to surface on the playing field. The city said it removed most of the rocks but by last May, grass growth was stunted and it was determined that the grass was getting too much water. Now the city has decided that poor drainage because of clay soil is the problem, Lee said.

Most of the park's playing fields were built from soil dredged out of a stream and stored there to dry, Lee said. The material was going to be used as fill material for a landfill closure in Kailua, but the dredging project was delayed and the soil didn't dry, making it unsuitable, he said. Clay soil doesn't drain well, Lee said.

"The intent is to put money in the budget to completely redo the field," Lee said. "It includes an underdrain to take the water out of the field."

Some \$1.25 million has been budgeted to fix the problem and the city hopes to begin work in the spring and finish it within eight months, he



said.

John Reppun, who has championed the project for more than 25 years, said the community warned the city about the rocks and drainage problem before the start of the park construction in 2002.

But Reppun said he's glad that the city is fixing the field and hopes it includes getting rid of the rocks.

"You can moan over how long this has taken but what's very important is that it gets done," he said. "The fact that there is money in the budget to do this fix is a good thing and the fact that it's going to start work this year is good. What's the point in looking backward?"

Reach Eloise Aguiar at [eaguiar@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto: eaguiar@honoluluadvertiser.com).

Back

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Star-Bulletin

Vol. 11, Issue 26 - Thursday, January 26, 2006



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Signs warning of contamination
have been posted at Kualoa park
since Dec. 3.

Contamination warning off Kualoa becoming permanent

By Diana Leone

dleone@starbulletin.com

After more than two months of high bacteria levels in the ocean off Kualoa Beach Park, the state Department of Health has replaced temporary cardboard signs with metal ones warning people not to swim, fish or boat there.

A department memo that circulated Tuesday when the signs were erected said, "We do not see any short-term solution to this problem and the public needs to be protected."

The sturdier metal signs replace cardboard ones, which have been posted since Dec. 3, when multiple tests of water at the city park showed higher bacterial levels than state standards, said Dale Mikami, a Clean Water Branch environmental health specialist.

The Health Department posts warning signs when bacteria that indicate the presence of human or animal feces reach "a geometric mean of 7 colony-forming units per 100 milliliters of water, taken over 30 days with at least five samples," according to an e-mailed memo from Watson Okubo, Clean Water Branch monitoring supervisor.

In his e-mail to city and state water officials, lifeguards and others, Okubo described how bacteria levels at Kualoa reached a geometric mean of 65 colony-forming units per 100 milliliters of water for the month of November.

The best way to understand the measurement is to realize that 7 is the threshold number for concern, and higher numbers mean an increased chance of people getting sick from going into the water, Mikami explained.

Okubo was not working yesterday and unavailable for comment.

The most common question from the public when there are contamination postings is "Is it safe to go in the water?" Mikami said.

"We tell them what our testing results found, and caution them not to go in," Mikami said. "The primary thing we're concerned about is bodily contact and getting sick."

The source of the water contamination "might be the restrooms, but we are not positive," Mikami said.

Fortunately, the problem occurred since cold weather set in, and not many people go into the water at Kualoa, said Jim Howe, chief of lifeguard services for the city. The city puts lifeguards at the park only on weekends during winter months, he said.

Howe said he is not aware of any reports of people getting sick from going into the water at Kualoa recently.

"Over the years, we have had periodic concerns with what looked to be feces coming onto shore at Kualoa," Howe said. Health Department officials "looked into that, and we were assured it was turtle feces."

The indicator bacteria used by the Health Department (Enterococci and Clostridium perfringens) are associated with warmblooded animals and humans.

Howe said that since the current problem continues, he will be meeting with city and state officials soon "to make a determination here exactly what we're going to do."

Since being informed of high bacteria readings in November, the city has "closed one bathroom, capped pipes and closed a leach field," city spokesman Bill Brennan said yesterday.

The city is using pumper trucks to remove sewage from the cesspools that serve the three open restrooms every other day until further notice, Brennan said. And the city will ask the state to test waters north of the park for possible sources of contamination, he said.

Article URL: <http://starbulletin.com/2006/01/26/news/story04.html>
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